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MACROECONOMIC POLICY QUESTIONS: FINANCING OF DEVELOPMENT

AGENDA FOR DEVELOPMENT

Letter dated 25 October 1995 from the Permanent Representatives of Albania, Bulgaria, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour, on behalf of our Presidents, to transmit herewith their declaration, signed on 22 October 1995 in New York, relating to the four countries' actions, plans and projects in the area of regional and transregional transport, power and telecommunications infrastructure.

We have the honour to request further that the text of the present letter and the enclosed declaration be circulated as a document of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 94 (a) and 99.

(Signed) Pellumb KULLA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Albania

(Signed) Slavi PASHOVSKI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Bulgaria

(Signed) Denko MALESKI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Macedonia

(Signed) Huseyin E. CELEM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Turkey

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ANNEX

Declaration of the Presidents of Albania, Bulgaria, Macedonia and Turkey signed in New York on 22 October 1995

The President of the Republic of Albania, Dr. Sali Berisha, the President of the Republic of Bulgaria, Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, the Speaker of Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Stoyan Andov, acting on behalf of President Kiro Gligorov, and the President of the Republic of Turkey, Mr. Süleyman Demirel, met in New York on 22 October 1995 to discuss and coordinate the four countries' actions, plans and projects in the area of regional and transregional transport, power and telecommunications infrastructure.

The Presidents reaffirmed the importance of the West-East transport-communications corridor for the stability and development of the South-Eastern part of Europe and the Black Sea region. They emphasised that stability in Europe largely depends on restoring peace and strengthening cooperation in the Balkan Peninsula.

With regard to the above, the Presidents agreed on the following:

1. The project of a West-East transport and communications corridor conforms to the interests of each of the countries concerned and can promote international cooperation in the region. It constitutes a part of the single European infrastructure and helps develop links by land and sea between Europe, the Mediterranean, the Middle East and the Black Sea basin. This corridor was agreed on by the Pan-European Transport Conference held in March 1994 as one of the priority corridors in Central and Eastern Europe.

2. In compliance with their commitments as States Members of the United Nations, the four countries accept and support the international efforts aimed at settling the conflicts on the territory of the former Yugoslavia. Notably, they implement in good faith the relevant United Nations Security Council sanctions resolutions.

Building the West-East transport and telecommunications corridor should be regarded as indirect assistance to the countries whose economies have been most adversely affected by the sanctions. The project will help them overcome the negative consequences of the sanctions and avoid future recurrence of similar harmful effects.

3. The four countries note with satisfaction and value highly the commitment of the United States of America to assisting the development of a regional infrastructure in South-Eastern Europe, formulated in the joint Bulgarian-United States Declaration of 14 February 1995 and on other occasions.

They welcome and appreciate the interest in and readiness for a constructive discussion of the projects on the part of the European Union, its member States, notably Italy, and a number of world and European organizations and financial institutions.

Interaction with different businesses will be essential for implementing the West-East Transport and Communications Project. To this end, interested companies will be encouraged to participate.

The Presidents reiterate their appeal to other countries concerned to join in the concerted effort to develop an efficient regional infrastructure. They declare their commitment to taking the necessary follow-up steps, including at the highest government level, and to establishing, as soon as possible, the Project Coordination Office in Sofia, as envisaged in the Project Document signed in Sofia in April 1994 by the four countries.

Done and signed at New York this twenty-second day of October, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-five, in the presence of Mr. Hans van den Broek, Commissioner for External Relations of the European Commission.

(Signed) Dr. Sali BERISHA
The President of the Republic
of Albania

(Signed) Dr. Zhelyu ZHELEV
The President of the Republic
of Bulgaria

(Signed) Stoyan ANDOV
For the President of the Republic
of Macedonia, the Speaker of Parliament

(Signed) Süleyman DEMIREL
The President of the Republic
of Turkey